



International Commission
against the Death Penalty

President

Federico Mayor

Members

Giuliano Amato

Louise Arbour

Robert Badinter

Mohammed Bedjaoui

Ruth Dreifuss

Michèle Duvivier
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Hanne Sophie Greve

Asma Jilani Jahangir

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Geneva, 18 July 2013

Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: Bolivia accedes to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) warmly welcomes the accession by the Plurinational State of Bolivia on 12 July 2013 to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), aiming at the abolition of death penalty.

Bolivia is the 77th state to become party to this important Protocol, the only international treaty to abolish the capital punishment in all situations. Bolivia abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes in 1997.

“I congratulate Bolivia for reaffirming its commitment to abolition of death penalty by becoming a State party to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR”, said President Federico Mayor. “In acceding to this Protocol, Bolivia has shown important regional and international leadership in consolidating the global trend towards abolition of the death penalty. I urge other States to take a decisive step towards abolition of capital punishment by ratifying this treaty.”

In April 2013 ICDP became an official supporter of the campaign led by the World Coalition against the Death Penalty to encourage States to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

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BACKGROUND

ICDP was founded in Madrid in October 2010. ICDP is composed of 15 personalities of high international standing from all regions of the world who act with total independence and neutrality and work under its President Mr. Federico Mayor.

ICDP opposes the death penalty under any circumstances believing that it violates the right to life enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. ICDP promotes the abolition of capital punishment in law in those states that observe a de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty and promotes moratoriums on executions in states that rarely use the death penalty. In states that continue to carry out executions ICDP urges strict adherence to international standards.

ICDP works with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations to further the abolition of capital punishment worldwide.

The work of the ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 16 states from all regions of the world that are committed to abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Geneva.